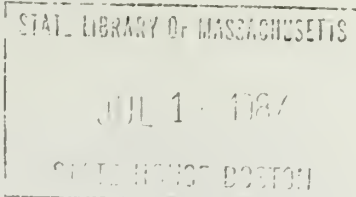


111755, MA10.2-AS15
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIES
RIGHT TO KNOW POLICY
July 15, 1987



UMASS/AMHERST
312066 0282 4481 9

ASBESTOS IN BUILDINGS

1. Structural asbestos is an asbestos-containing material applied or affixed as a coating to beams, walls and ceilings of a building for the purpose of insulation, fireproofing or decorative coating.
2. Non-structural asbestos is asbestos-containing material applied or affixed to pipes, ducts, boilers, tanks, reactors, furnaces and other types of containers.

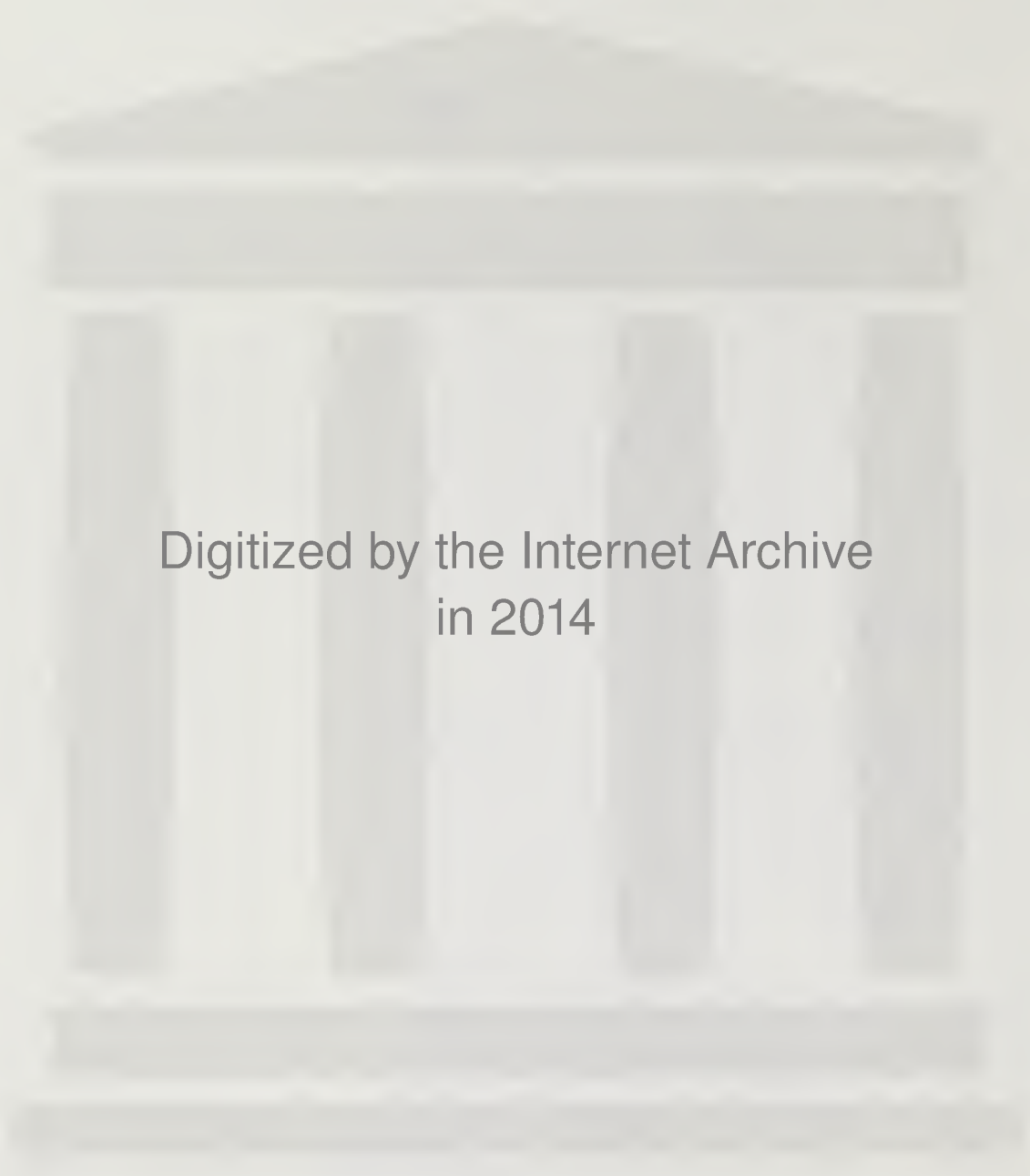
Structural and non-structural asbestos are covered under Chapter 111F.

3. Asbestos articles are fabricated or manufactured products containing asbestos in which the asbestos is rigidly incorporated into the product, such as floor tiles, asbestos-cement boards, building siding, roofing shingles or asbestos textile products. Asbestos articles that are used in a building are exempt from Chapter 111F unless the application, maintenance and repair of the article is processed in such a manner that asbestos dust is generated.
4. The following types of asbestos are carcinogens on the Massachusetts Substance List:

Actinolite asbestos (CAS # 77536-66-4);
Anthophyllite asbestos (CAS # 77536-67-5);
Amosite asbestos (CAS #12172-73-5);
Asbestos (CAS #1332-21-4);
Chrysotile asbestos (CAS #12001-29-5);
Crocidolite asbestos (CAS #12002-28-4);
Tremolite asbestos (CAS # 75536-68-6)

This policy supercedes the previous policy dated 1/19/85.

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS
JUN 9 1988
Office of the Secretary
Department of Labor and Industries
Library Copy



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2014

<https://archive.org/details/asbestosinbuildi00mass>

Explanation of the DLI Right to Know Policy
on Asbestos in Buildings
July 15, 1987

Employees who have, are, or may be exposed to structural or non-structural asbestos may exercise their rights under Chapter 111F. These employees are entitled to a Material Safety Data Sheet on asbestos, annual training and the posting of a workplace notice. Exposure pertains to employees who are or may be processing asbestos, i.e. physically working with asbestos or those whose work may disturb asbestos fibers and cause them to become airborne or transferred to the worker's clothing by contact. One example is an electrician who must work above a dropped ceiling where there is spray-on asbestos. Another example is a plumber who must work to repair an elbow joint of a pipe that is insulated with asbestos-containing material.

Building occupants such as general office workers, other than those who have been, are or may be exposed because of the nature of their work, do not have rights under Chapter 111f until they may be or are exposed as a result of a change in normal operating conditions. A change in normal operating conditions includes the contamination of the workplace because of a possible discharge of asbestos or asbestos contamination during abatement operations.

Employers in control of the workplace where employees or outside contractors have, are or may be exposed to structural or non-structural asbestos are required to determine the presence of structural or non-structural asbestos. An employer in control of a workplace may be either the building owner or the tenant employer or both. The determination by the controlling employer may be done by use of an outside consultant. Public sector employers may request an inspection by the Division of Occupational Hygiene.

If structural or non-structural asbestos is found to be present, the building owner and/or the affected tenant employers must obtain an MSDS and post a Right to Know Workplace Notice in a central location. An asbestos MSDS is available, upon written request, from the Department of Labor and Industries. The MSDS must be maintained on file and available to employees and outside contractors in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 111F.

Employees who may be or are exposed to structural or non-structural asbestos must receive training as prescribed by C. 111F and 441 CMR 21.07. This includes instruction on the specific hazards that may be encountered because of the nature of the work that is or may be performed. Since it may not be practical to label all structural or non-structural asbestos, the training must include a clear description as to the location and condition of the structural or non-structural asbestos. It is strongly recommended that an asbestos location map also be drawn up and posted in a central location with the Right to Know Workplace Notice.

